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July 20, 2000

Ms. Maglie Roman Salas, Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
The Portals
445 Twelfth Street SW
Washington, D. C. 20554

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JUL 20 2000

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of)
)
Numbering Resource Optimization) CC Docket No. 99-200

Dear Ms. Salas:

Enclosed are an original and four copies, plus two additional public copies of Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company's Petition for Waiver and Motion for Extension of Time of the reporting requirements of 47 C.F.R. §52.15(f)(6)(i) as adopted in the above referenced proceeding. A duplicate original copy of this letter and Petition is provided; please date stamp this copy as acknowledgment of its receipt and return it. Questions regarding this filing may be directed to me at the above address or by telephone at (513) 397-6671.

Sincerely,

Patricia L. Rupich
Regulatory Analyst

Enclosure

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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

In the Matter of

Numbering Resource Optimization

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CC Docket No. 99-200

**PETITION FOR WAIVER
AND EXTENSION OF TIME**

Cincinnati Bell Telephone Company ("CBT"), pursuant to Section 1.3 of the Commission's rules, 47 C.F.R. § 1.3, requests a waiver of the August 1, 2000 utilization and forecast reporting requirements of 47 C.F.R. § 52.15(f)(6)(i). Specifically, CBT requests a waiver of the August 1, 2000 reporting requirement until November 1, 2000 to enable it to make the necessary changes to its systems in order to ensure the accuracy of the data required to be reported for the June 30, 2000 period. This waiver is in the public interest because meaningful analysis of utilization data and forecasting of number resources depends upon the accuracy of the data provided to the numbering resource administrator.

I. BACKGROUND

The Commission's Report and Order¹ institutes mandatory reporting of utilization and forecast data by all carriers that receive numbering resources from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator ("NANPA"). Carriers are required to report this data semiannually on February 1 and August 1 for the periods ending on December 31 and June 30, respectively. The first report is due on August 1, 2000.

¹ *In the Matter of Numbering Resource Optimization*, CC Docket No. 99-200, *Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking*, FCC 00-104, released March 31, 2000.

The Report and Order requires that utilization data be reported by five specific categories of numbers and establishes uniform definitions for these number categories.² Although many parties supported utilization reporting at more aggregated levels, the Commission found that reporting of use-specific data is necessary to accurately track number utilization, to improve the accuracy of NANPA's projections and its ability to evaluate requests for new NXX blocks, and to assist states in monitoring carrier requests for numbering resources.³

The Report and Order also requires utilization data to be reported by NPA in thousand number blocks, a level of detail which the Commission has recognized requires "up-front programming effort in designing a tracking system and preparing reports from it."⁴ The NANPA is required to examine each data submission for inconsistencies or anomalies and is directed to withhold assignment of additional numbering resources to a carrier until any such deficiencies are remedied.⁵ Given the purposes for which the data will be used and the severe penalties instituted for deficient data, it is apparent that the Commission believes that detailed and accurate data is important to numbering optimization efforts

II. A WAIVER GRANTING CBT AN EXTENSION OF TIME FOR FILING DATA FOR THE JUNE 30, 2000 PERIOD IS IN THE PUBLIC INTEREST

CBT is an independent, mid-size local exchange carrier that serves approximately 1.1 million customers in southwestern Ohio, northern Kentucky and southeastern Indiana. The Ohio and Indiana areas are served by the 513 and 812 NPAs respectively. The northern Kentucky region is undergoing an area code split and is currently in a permissive dialing period for the old 606 NPA and the new 859 NPA. The permissive dialing period ends on October 1, 2000.

² The five categories are: assigned, intermediate, reserved, aging, and administrative. See, Report and Order at ¶¶60 and 47 C.F.R. §52.15(f)(5)(i). Also see definitions at ¶¶11-36 and 47 C.F.R. §52.15(f)(1).

³ Report and Order at ¶¶59-60.

⁴ Report and Order at ¶72

Simultaneously with the split, CBT is instituting ten-digit dialing for calls between Ohio, Kentucky and Indiana. The implementation of ten-digit dialing will free up 120 NXX codes.

A significant amount of work is necessary to modify the telephone number administration database to incorporate the new number category definitions. Although CBT has already spent a considerable amount of time planning for these changes, it is estimated that at least one month is needed for programming changes to reflect the new categories, followed by one week for data reconciliation and another week for testing the new system. Once the amended telephone number administration database is operational, at least two additional weeks are necessary for preparation of the utilization and forecast report. Despite shifting resources to the project, and retaining an outside contractor for much of the programming work, CBT's ability to update the database is severely constrained because of the fact that the employees with the expertise necessary for this project are the very same employees who are already implementing the 606 area code split and 10 digit dialing. In short, it is simply not feasible for CBT to complete the overhaul of the database in time to file an accurate report on August 1, 2000.

As the primary code holder in the region, the use of numbering resources by CBT is particularly crucial to enable NANPA to accurately track utilization, to project the life of NPAs in the region, and to forecast future numbering resource demands. If the initial data reported under the new categories is not as accurate as possible, any forecasts made using this data will be suspect. Furthermore, comparisons of data from the June 30, 2000 period to the December 31, 2000 and subsequent periods will be useless if the data from the first period is not accurate.

CBT's request for a waiver of the rule and providing an extension until November 1, 2000 to file its utilization and forecast report meets the Commission's standards for granting a

⁵ Report and Order at ¶54.

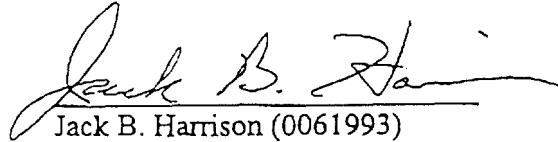
waiver.⁶ First, CBT's circumstances in this instance are unique. CBT is the primary code holder in its region; as a mid-size local exchange carrier it has fewer resources from which to pull for unexpected projects such as this; and the employees needed for this project are the same employees responsible for implementing the 606 area code split and ten-digit dialing. Second, because accurate data is of the utmost importance for NANPA and the state commissions in their efforts to project the life of NPAs, reclaim unused NXXs, implement 1000 block pooling, etc., the public interest will be served by a slight delay in the receipt of CBT's data. Allowing CBT until November 1, 2000 to submit its data for the June 30, 2000 period will ensure that the data submitted is as accurate as possible. In addition, as NANPA indicated at the June 20, 2000 meeting of the North American Numbering Council ("NANC"), its system for organizing and analyzing the data submitted by carriers will not be available until some time after August 1, 2000.⁷ Based upon this information, it appears that allowing CBT until November 1, 2000 to file its data will not hamper NANPA's analysis of these reports.

III. CONCLUSION

For the reasons set forth herein, CBT submits that good cause exists for waiver of the Commission's number utilization and forecast reporting rules, 47 C.F.R. §52.15(f)(6)(i), for the June 30, 2000 period. By granting CBT an extension until November 1, 2000 for filing the report, CBT will have the time to adequately update and test its systems to ensure the accuracy of its data. The public interest will be served because accurate data is imperative in order for NANPA and the state commissions to accurately forecast numbering demands and to allocate limited numbering resources.

⁶ *Northeast Cellular Telephone Company v. FCC*, 897 F.2d 1164, 1166 (D.C. Cir. 1990) and *WAIT Radio v. FCC*, 418 F.2d 1153, 1159 (D.C. Cir. 1969).

Respectfully submitted,



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⁷ See Letter from John R. Hoffman, NANC Chair to Mr. Lawrence C. Strickling, Chief, Common Carrier Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, June 21, 2000.